

## FREIGHT HOUSE DESTROYED

M. K. and T. and F. S. and W. Loss  
Estimated At More Than \$40,000.

Oklahoma City, Okla.—Fire completely destroyed the M. K. and T. and Fort Smith and Western freight warehouse and office at Oklahoma City.

More than \$40,000 is the loss estimated by J. H. Little, superintendent of the Oklahoma division of the M. K. and T. The building was full of freight brought to Oklahoma City for transfer, but he said the most serious loss was caused by the company in the destruction of all freight records. Freight shipments were partially covered by insurance.

The origin of the fire has not been determined. It started in the west end of the warehouse and with the aid of explosions of tanks of liquid, kerosene gas and ammunition, it spread rapidly over the entire frame structure which was covered with corrugated iron. At first it was believed that the flames could be confined to the warehouse and firemen fought desperately to save the office, but the low water pressure and the high wind made it impossible.

## Armistice Day Plans Begin.

Oklahoma City, Okla.—Armistice day, the third annual celebration, will be observed in Oklahoma with big parades at former service men together with floats representing many business houses and organizations, it plans announced by the American Legion as carrier through.



## Millions Lost in Fires

Fire losses in March, 1929, exceed those of any month in the history of the state, according to figures submitted to the annual report of John Connolly, state fire marshal, which shows a record for that month of \$1,258,956.71. The next highest amount of loss for any one month was incurred in August, 1917.

October 3 to 9 is to be observed all over the state, particularly in the public schools, as Fire Prevention week, according to announcement at Connolly's office. October 8 will be the fifteenth anniversary of the great Chicago fire, in which 200 persons lost their lives and 17,500 buildings and property valued at \$200,000,000 were destroyed.

In the five years ending December 31, 1929, Oklahoma has lost a total of \$22,643,747.72 in fires—an average annual loss of more than \$4,500,000.

The highest yearly record for fires to the state was set in 1917, with a loss of \$5,555,956.23, which is only about \$200,000 in excess of the loss for 1929 of \$5,355,956.80. There were 2,294 fires in 1917 and only 1,313 in 1929. There were fewer fires in 1919 than in any other year since 1911, there being but 1,103 fires with a loss of \$2,387,026.91. In 1918 there was a total loss of \$4,287,736.67 from 1,722 fires and in 1916.

## Red River Hearing Wears On.

That the long weeks of technical testimony in the Red River hearing before a special United States commissioner in the federal district courtroom is wearing the nerves of the attorneys to a frayed edge was evidenced when Attorney Teller, assistant special attorney, and T. W. Gregory, former attorney general of the United States, special representative of the state of Texas, exchanged words across the table during the hearing.

L. C. Glenn of Nashville, Tenn., professor of geology in Vanderbilt university, was testifying as to the topography of the territory in question, when the argument arose. The Texas attorney insisted upon direct replies of "yes" or "no" and the witness' answers were unsatisfactory to him. It was then that Gregory's attitude was made the subject of Teller's ire, and Commissioner Frederick B. Tyler was forced to reprimand both attorneys. Professor Glenn's testimony was concluded without further difficulty. The Nashville scientist's testimony has occupied the entire time of the hearing since last Thursday.

## Opinion on Oil and Gas Leases.

Oil and gas leases, made for a period of five years are not binding unless in writing and such leases made through an agent for such a period of time are not binding unless the agent's authority to represent the person for whom he is acting is in writing, according to an opinion handed down by Judge Nicholson of the supreme court. The decision was given in the case of W. W. Woodworth, John Neenan, B. A. Simpson and C. L. Anderson against Wirt Franklin, the case being remanded to the district court at Carter county for a new trial on that point.

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